for further talks. Pakistan, however, was unwilling to commit itself to any timeframe for further talks and attempted to link the scheduling of future talks with the ground situation in J&K including level of security forces deployed against terrorists in J&K and discussion on the modalities of a plebiscite, which Government have consistently regarded as unacceptable.

During the period since the Foreign Secretary level talks concluded, Pakistan has indulged in a highly provocative propaganda compaign against India and has stepped up its efforts to internationalise the J&K issue. This has vitiated the climate of relations and has a negative impact on the bilateral process.

Branches of ISI

*40. DR. SANJAYA SINH:
SHRI P. UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Pakistan ISI has set its branches in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and how much arms etc. have been collected by this organisation and since when they are functioning in the country; and

(c) what steps have been taken to check the activities of this organisation and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Govt. is aware of the designs of ISI of Pakistan to carry out espionage, subversion and sabotages in India in a clandestine manner and is taking all necessary steps to combat and frustrate such objectives by gearing up the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and coordinated action by the concerned Central and State agencies, strengthening the deployment of paramilitary forces at strategic locations, intensified coastal as well as inland patrolling, construction of border fencing and flood-lighting in vulnerable stretches of the Indo-Pak border.

Closure of Industrial units in Agra to protect Taj Mahal

200. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had recently ordered the closing down of industrial units of Agra to protect the beauty of Taj Mahal;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government propose to issue similar orders in case of stone quarries and mines working in the close vicinity of bird sancturies and tourist spots of the country; and

(c) if so, by when such orders are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) On 27.8.1993 and on 3.12.1993 the Hon'ble Supreme Court ordered the closure of 300 industrial units situated in Agra and Firozabad, which come under the. Taj Trapezium zone, for noncompliance of the prescribed emission standards. Subsequently, the Hon'ble Court have suspended the closure order in respect of 125 units which have installed air pollution control devices, in order to enable the U.P. Pollution Control Board to check the adequacy and efficiency of these devices.

(b) and (c) State Pollution Control Boards, under various provisions of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, do take action against units including stone quarries and mines working in the close vicinity of bird sancturies and tourist spots of the country, if they do not comply with the prescribed standards.